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Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-07 ISO-00 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 260935

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN

SUBJECT: GABON VOTE ON KOREA AT 30TH UNGA

REF: STATE 259571

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. GABON, A COSPONSOR OF OUR RESOLUTION, VOTED FOR IT AND FOR OUR POSITION ON THE PRIORITY QUESTION. HOWEVER, CONTRARY TO EXPECTATIONS AND WITHOUT EXPLANATION IT ABSTAINED ON THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION INSTEAD OF VOTING AGAINST IT. REQUEST AMBASSADOR APPROACH GOVERNMENT AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL TO SEEK EXPLANATION FOR ABSTENTION.

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2. GOG SHOULD BE CLEARLY AWARE OF OUR DISAPPOINTMENT

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IN ITS VOTE ON THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION BUT THE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON OBTAINING RECONSIDERATION OF ITS VOTE. YOU SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

A. WE WELCOME GABON'S COSPONSORSHIP OF OUR RESOLUTION AND ITS SUPPORT FOR IT. THE LARGE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE (59) SHOWED THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF UN MEMBERS BELIEVE THAT WE HAD OFFERED A REALISTIC AND CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH ON THE KOREAN ISSUE. THE PASSAGE OF THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION MEANS THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS NOW

SPEAKING WITH A CONFUSED VOICE ON THIS ISSUE.

B. CONSIDERING THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE KOREAN ISSUE IT IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE GOVERNMENT OF GABON COULD CHANGE ITS POSITION ON THIS MATTER WITHOUT INFORMING US. THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION WAS AIMED DIRECTLY AT THE UNITED STATES AND AT WEAKENING THE ROK POSITION BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD.

C. THE PASSAGE OF THE RESOLUTION IS MORE DISAPPOINTING SINCE THE MARGIN OF PASSAGE (13 VOTES) COULD HAVE BEEN MUCH LESS IF STATES SUCH AS GABON HAD STAYED WITH US. THE NORTH KOREANS ARE NOW EXERTING GREAT PRESSURE NOT ONLY TO RETAIN THEIR VOTING MARGIN BUT TO FURTHER ERODE THE MARGIN FOR OUR RESOLUTION.

D. WE COUNT ON CONTINUED GABON SUPPORT FOR OUR RESOLUTION IN PLENARY AND REQUEST IT TO RECONSIDER ITS VOTE ON THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION AND VOTE AGAINST IT IN THE PLENARY SESSION. KISSINGER

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